

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important news affecting labor, agriculture, commerce, industry, politics, and social conditions. It is published weekly, except on Sundays and holidays. It is sold at 10 cents a copy, and is sent to members of the American Federation of Labor free of charge.

VOL. 10, NO. 48.

CAPITALISTS MUST CONFUSE WAGES AND PROFITS.

The attempt to reduce wages by appealing to the workers' sense of fairness reveals the hypocrisy and cant of those who talk about a "square deal."

The workers are told that "capital (meaning capitalists) and labor must sacrifice in the present emergency." The capitalists are asked to sacrifice their profits, while the workers are asked to sacrifice their wages.

Coupon clippers and money lenders favor the plan, as do editors and so-called economists who talk about "natural" laws and publicists who have their heads in oblivion.

When these modern wages and seers say "capital (capitalists) and labor must sacrifice," they would have folks believe that when the capitalist abandons war-time profits, his living standards are lowered.

These profits have been so stupendous, especially in the basic industries, that the majority of the most skillful accountants have been unable to conceal them.

Despite a nation-wide propaganda on high wages, government figures show that the average wage has fallen in many times during the war, has not made proper living standards possible.

A large portion of the press ignores this fact, while it prints editorial on "all-shirtd workers"; economists with an eye on the average pension and assembly figures plead the cause of those they would serve, and university professors, hoping for a million-dollar endorsement, attack "high" wages. But in no instance is the government's figures challenged.

When a capitalist talks about less profits this does not mean less wholesome food and warm clothing for himself and family.

But less wages mean instant lowering of the workers' living standards.

To the capitalist profit does not mean interest on the money he invests, which is a charge on the industry, and is guaranteed by a lien on the plant or business in the form of a mortgage, called bonds.

There is no comparison between wages and profits.

The virtuous, unselfish pose of big business and its defenders is the height of the humor of the hour.

The attempt of the press to be impartial when they plead with workers to lower living standards would be comedy if the workers and children were not involved.

RAIL MANAGERS WANT AUTOCRATIC CONTROL

Chicago, Feb. 13.—Consent on the part of railroad executives and Congress to the creation of a new body of railroad workers and transportation industry was charged today by the American Association of Railroad Managers.

The trade union movement, however, under the American Railway Union, is opposed to the plan, and the American Railway Union, which is the largest of the railroad unions, is opposed to the plan.

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Infants live longer than fathers' wages are high

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1921.

INFANTS LIVE LONGER THAN FATHERS' WAGES ARE HIGH

Washington, Feb. 13.—The children of the nation are living longer than their fathers, and the average wage of the father is lower than the average wage of the child.

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WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1921.

TRUST PENSION PLAN CREATES DEPENDENTS

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

WHOLE NO. 516

DOLLAR'S PURCHASING POWER COMPARED WITH PRE-WAR TIME

Washington, Feb. 13.—A table has been prepared at A. F. of L. headquarters in which the average purchasing power of the dollar in the United States since 1913 is based on government figures; the necessary figures to meet this increase and the decreased purchasing power of the dollar.

This table, printed below, shows in the first line the average increased cost of living, and in the second line the average cost of living in 1913.

The second line shows what rate per hour would be necessary for a man to meet this increased living cost, if he was paid 50 cents an hour in 1913.

In the third line is shown the purchasing power of the dollar from 1913 to 1920:

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